

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6330

As of January 26, 2008

Title: An act relating to juror compensation.

Brief Description: Modifying juror compensation provisions.

Sponsors: Senators McCaslin and Kohl-Welles.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Judiciary: 1/29/08.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Staff: Lidia Mori (786-7755)

Background: In Washington, jurors may receive up to \$25 but in no case less than \$10 for each day's attendance at jury service, besides mileage at a rate prescribed and regulated by the Director of Financial Management. Juror pay is funded completely by cities and counties; the state does not contribute to juror pay.

In 2006 ESSB 6386 passed the Legislature and \$569,000 of the General Fund-State appropriation for fiscal year 2007 was provided for a juror pay pilot and research project. The legislation provided that jurors participating in the pilot project jurisdictions may receive juror fees of up to \$62 for each day of attendance in addition to mileage. The pilot project jurisdictions include: (1) Clark County Superior and District courts; (2) Franklin County Superior and District courts and Pasco Municipal Court; and (3) Des Moines Municipal Court. The 2007 Legislature appropriated \$325,000 to continue the pilot project through October, 2007, and conduct surveys afterwards. A final report is expected by May of 2008.

Summary of Bill: In Superior Court or a court of limited jurisdiction, jurors may receive up to \$65 but in no case less than \$50 for each day's attendance at jury service, besides mileage at a rate prescribed and regulated by the Director of Financial Management. The state is required to fully reimburse the county for juror compensation. In civil and criminal cases in municipal court, each juror may receive up to \$65 but in no case less than \$50 for each day of jury service. The state is responsible for reimbursing the city for the juror compensation.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 26, 2008.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.